

during these periods of time. We face very difficult issues and choices, particularly as it relates to the Russian involvement in Chechnya, the battle going on in Bosnia, the devaluation of the Mexican peso and the implications for us.

We do not need more rancorous debate about individuals and persons and their behavior. We need positive, constructive debate about the issues facing this Nation and what we as a Congress are going to propose to do about those problems.

Mrs. SCHROEDER. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. EHLERS. Just one moment, please.

Finally, I am reminded of the comments of Mr. Rodney King, whom I did not think I would ever quote on the floor of Congress, but give his famous statement, "Can't we all just get along?"

Can't we all just get along for the good of the American people and for the purpose of debate in this body?

I would be pleased to yield the remainder of my time to the gentlewoman from Colorado [Mrs. SCHROEDER].

Mrs. SCHROEDER. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the gentleman's speech because I think those of us on this side want to make sure the body moves forward, too. We are sent here to do the Nation's business. But I hope the gentleman read yesterday's Newsweek story because I think that is why some of us on this side are so concerned. I hope that the gentleman reads that because I think if he reads that, he too will join us in saying there are some serious questions here that need to be asked and need to be dealt with.

I would hope we could get these questions about the book deal outside of this arena, to independent counsel, or get it out of here so we could move on to those topics. But in the Newsweek yesterday, they came out and showed that this is not the first incident where Mr. Murdoch has been called into question. That in the last 10 years, there have been at least 6 suspicious book deals when he needed to get special privileges in other legislative bodies for his publishing empire. I think that raises some very serious questions that we should ask.

The gentleman is right, we should not debate them here, but should we not get them outside this body to an independent counsel somewhere to get this solved and raise the cloud?

I yield back to the gentleman. Would you not agree on that?

Mr. EHLERS. As I understand it, you are suggesting an investigation of Mr. Murdoch. But that is not what I have heard the discussion about during the past week.

Mrs. SCHROEDER. If I may reclaim my time, what I am asking is that we have an investigation of the Speaker's book deal with Mr. Murdoch.

Mr. EHLERS. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Georgia.

Mr. LINDER. I thank the gentleman for yielding. I appreciate your point. I do not take my advice on politics from—

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman's 5 minutes has expired.

Mr. LINDER. There should be an investigation of Mr. Murdoch. I appreciate your point.

#### WELFARE REFORM: BEYOND SLOGANS TO ACTION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 1995, the gentlewoman from Connecticut [Mrs. KENNELLY] is recognized during morning business for 4 minutes.

Mrs. KENNELLY. Mr. Speaker, right now as we go forward on our work in this new Congress, there is no debate on whether we should reform welfare. That debate is over and both sides of the aisle agree that we should and the taxpayers have reached a consensus that the system does not work as we know it today. But saying that, it is not enough. It is time for all of us to understand that real reform is not a matter of finding the best slogans. In fact, it is a cruel hoax to the American people to say that we can do welfare reform easily. In fact, it is going to be very difficult to carry out welfare reform.

Today I would challenge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to move beyond the slogans that we have adopted these last few months to get that message out and get down to the real work of doing welfare reform.

Let us begin to deal with the realities of what real reform will mean and come to grips with some of the most difficult issues.

Let me give some examples. Slogan 1: "Those who refuse to accept responsibility should not receive a free ride."

We all agree. But when I take a very good read of the contract, I see that if in fact a woman establishes the paternity of her child, gives the name of the father, gives the address of the father, and yet that paternity does not get legally established by the State organization or an agency that is dealing with this thing, that child will not receive any assistance.

The contract states that any child whose paternity is not established would be in fact ineligible for benefits. This would be in any case unless in fact paternity was established. Yet we know in real life that State agencies often take up to 6 months to establish paternity. We also know that there are those who have fathered children, leave the State, cannot be found and paternity cannot be established. That makes no difference. The child will not in fact receive any help.

Slogan 2: "Welfare reform must aim at keeping families together."

My heavens, that is exactly what all of us want. Without a family, it is

very, very difficult to grow up and be able to take care of yourself in life. Yet we tell this as a fact. But if we look at the contract, we see very little reference other than that area about paternity about what responsibilities the father carries.

Therefore, many of us in this Congress want very deeply to have the welfare reform bill move along quickly, as rapidly as it can, being well-done, and have child support enforcement move along with it.

Child support enforcement is a necessary vehicle to go along with welfare reform so in fact two people, those two people that had the children, are involved in supporting that child and the taxpayer does not get left.

We know that if we do this, there is a much better chance that that child will grow up and be able to feel good about itself.

I think that we should continue to ask that those that are doing the welfare reform have child support enforcement happen at the same time.

Some say there are acceptable alternatives to letting the young, often immature mothers raise their children in inadequate surroundings with insufficient support. We all agree on that. But let us not also be fooled by the idea that everybody who has a child out of wedlock establishes an apartment and is on their own. Ninety percent of those people, those young women, live with a member of the family or a relative, with a mother, a father or a relative.

When we go beyond that, we have to be very careful that we do not let others fall through the cracks, and I mean fall through the cracks by not having adequate support that we all say we want. Not orphanages, of course not. But we certainly should look at group homes.

I will continue this later because there are other things we are trying to do that are simplistic. It is going to be hard to do welfare reform. We want to do it, but we should do it right.

#### REDUCTION URGED IN ROLE OF FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 1995, the gentleman from California [Mr. RADANOVICH] is recognized during morning business for 2 minutes.

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, even though the State of the Union speech is still to come, given the advance reports of the President's remarks, I am not hesitant to comment.

Separate from any specific White House proposal, it is the general inside-the-beltway, business-as-usual approach that concerns me. That attitude doesn't just come from the White House; but it permeates both the public and private sectors of Washington.

I was elected, Mr. Speaker, to reduce the role of the Federal Government, to rid us of regulation, and to put an end